

38
BELLS FOUNDER

Confounded,

O R

Sabinianus confuted:

With his damnable

S E C T.

Jeremiah chap. 50. vers. 2.

Bel is confounded.

Chap. 51. v. 17.

Every man is brutish by his knowledge. Every Founder is confounded by the graven Image: For his molten Image is Falshood, and there is no breath in them.

Verse. 18.

They are vanity, the works of errors, in the time of their visitation they shall perish.

Verse. 19.

The portion of Iacob is not like them.

Verse. 44.

I will punish Bell in Babylon. and I'll bring forth out of his mouth that which he hath swallowed up. and the nations shall not flow together any more unto him, yea the walls of Babylon shall fall.

Written by a Lover of Musick, especially in Churches.

*Barns, Durand, and Platino tells,
That Pope Sabinnian brought in bells.*

Anno, 603.



The Preface.

FOrasmuch as the PARLIAMENT hath voted down the Cathedrals, for satisfaction of the PUBLICK FAITH; it's humbly desired by the best affected, that they would proceed therein, according as the WORD OF GOD shall direct them, and take into their serious consideration, the Bill that's drawn up for the demolishing of the Cathedrals; with some exceptions of those which shall appear to be to the worship onely of the true GOD, that so there may be satisfaction provided for the PUBLICK FAITH accordingly; and whereas it hath been moved, that the Bells should be pulled down also for satisfaction of the PUBLICK FAITH, It's humbly desired that the PARLIAMENT would proceed therein likewise, according to the Rules and Examples of the WORD OF GOD.



ERRATA's.

PAge 4, line 25, for occasion read Oration: l. 27, for soveraign read suffregan: l. 29, for God read the Lord: p. 93, l. 30, for she late read your late.

Babels



Babels Bells confounded

BY

SIONS ARGVMENTS,

Humbly proposed to the considerations of the
PARLIAMENT.

If the Brazen Serpent made by Gods appointment was broken in peeces when it was Idolized, and that we must fight against spirituall wickednesses set up in high places; If Baal must not be pleaded for; If Bell must be confounded; if the bleating of the Amalekites for Cattell spared by King Saul was offensive to the Almighty; If Babel is so sick of the Popish Catholike disease that no balm will heal her; If the indignation of the most high is manifested from Heaven against the high places, by thunder and lightning, fire and brimstone, Storms and Tempests, O let the pillars of your hearts tremble, and be ye moved at the terrour of the Lord, who doth great things both in Heaven, and Earth, and hath said he will destroy the High places; Flee therefore from such abominations, and deliver every man his soul, Plead not for Baal, but let Baal plead for himself, and put to your hand to the throwing down of all the monuments of Idolatry; for so you have sworn to do, and it's not for you now to repent thereof: Therefore let it not

be grievous in your eyes though *the Houses of Baal be broken to pieces, and the founded bells of Babels bells confounded and dissolved.*

For surely if these these things had been quite abolished in the days of *King Henry the eight, and King Edward the sixt,* many a precious life would have been preserved, which now is destroyed; but there being many *Idols Temples,* and other monuments of *Idolatry* left undestroyed, *Queen Mary* did speedily set up her *abominable Idolatry* in all these *High places* as much as ever, and had the more time to exercise her self in most cruel persecution. And when *Queen Elizabeth* came to the *Crown,* she threw not down these abominations, neither did *King James,* nor the late *King,* but did still let them remain to the dishonour of the *living God,* and plaguing of the *Kingdomes.* And although since the beginning of these late troubles, there hath been some reformation made by demolishing of *Crosses,* and *Idolatrous pictures,* yet nothing is done so much as ought to be: for the *Roots* of superstition, even the *Idolatrous high places* are not yet removed, though many of them were built intentionally in the forms of *Crosses,* and consecrated to *Popish Saints,* that thereby the people might the more adore them: Neither have you taken away *the Popish bells,* though they are *abominable Idols* in the very *conception, formation, dedication, consecration, exaltation and occupation* thereof, and therefore ought to be taken down, and utterly demolished.

Oh therefore that the Honourable House of *Parliament* were thoroughly sensible how greatly the Name of *God* hath been blasphemed, and many thousands of poor souls deluded, bewitched, and led head-
ongl

long into hell by such abominable Idols. Now that none may hence forward plead ignorance in omitting of this duty of demolishing of these *Idols the bells*, which proceeded from the *Dragon*; which is the *Diuel and Sathan*, I shall lay open the filthiness & abomination therof, as those who have read their books & the *Chronicles*, and have seen their practises, have spoken & can speak by experience, What great abomination hath been committed about these cursed *Idols the Bells*! What horrible blasphemies of God, and of the *Saints in Heaven*! What solemn profanation of the *Name of the living God*, and of his holy spirit! What abuse and mis-application of the sacred Word, by their filthy polluted lips! What *Exorcisms*, by the living God, the God of *Elizeus the Prophet*! What *jupluffing*, & *stoleing*! What *crossing and cringing*, with the *Priests & Clarks singing*! What *invocations, execrations, conjurations, and benedictions, blind devotions, and admirations*! What *wiping, anointing, sweetning, & perfuming*! What *sprinkling*, with choise of *Godfathers and Godmothers*, naming the pretty *bables for babies*, the *bels for Babels buls*! What *singing and ringing*! What *drinking and roaring*! What *Gossiping* at the said *Chrystenings* of these abominable Idols! Far worse then the *Calves of Beth-haven*, or the *Image of King Nebuchadnezzar*, which was set up in the plains of *Dura*: for these are advanced above the rest of their Gods, even in the highest places of their *Idols temples*, That the *bels* which through their prayers have been brought into a right shape into *Christendome* (as they say) may make sweet melody like *Dauids Harp*, and ring merrily as their *Priests and Clarks* did sing merrily after it was callt, *Te Deum*, and *De pacem*, and a *Domine*

See the complaint of *Jacobus Selesta-diensis* to *Maximilian the Emperour*.

In *Mr. Foxes acts and monuments*.

See also *Tho. Bacon* upon the reliques, indulgences, pardons, stations, Exorcismes, consecrations; benedictions, where you shall see the abominations of the Bells.

ne factum est istud, & est myrabilia in oculis nostris, This is the Lords doings, and is marvellous in the eyes of us : Oh horrible ! the Founder foundeth it, and they say, it is the Lords doings, when it is the *Divels doings*: For from whence came these *curfed bells*, but from the *Idol Bell and the Dragon, Belzebub the Prince of the Divels* ? Thus the children of *Belial* have called their bells by the name of *old Bell of Babel*, even the *God* whom they worship ; and as *Babel* signifieth confusion, so the *Almighty* saith, *Bell shall be confounded, Ile punish Bell, Bell stoopeth*, and indeed the *Bells* begin to stoop already, and it's hoped the *Lord of Hosts* will dissolve them in his fury. But how have the eyes of the people been blinded and made to dote upon these detestable Idols, that they prayed for the virtue of the *Holy Ghost* to be put thereon, and again, that the same may be sanctified and hallowed of the *Holy Ghost* ; and in another prayer, that the Bell may be replenished with his heavenly blessing ; and in another prayer, that the dew of the *Holy Ghost* may be poured out thereon.

Oh what power and glory, what virtue and goodness do they ascribe unto this Bell, for as at *King Herods passion*, the people cried, the voice of God and not of men, so these ignorant fots, after the *Bishops* or *soveraign* hath wiped the bell with a linnen towel, sing, *Vox Domine super aquas*, the voice of God is upon the waters ; *Deus majestatis intonuit, Domine super aquas multas*, *vox Domine in virtute* ; *vox Domine in magnificentia*, *vox Domine confringentis cadros*, and also ascribe that salvation to these bells, which belongs to God, and onely to his *Christ* ; that the sound and
noise

noise thereof, shall drive away the fiery darts and power of the enemies, and make their army afraid. And as the *Heathen Romans* of old ascribed deliverance to mother *Idea*, upon the coming forth of a Prophecie of *Sibil*, that if *Idea* the mother of the Gods were brought to *Rome*, they should be able to drive the forraign enemy out of *Italy*, whereupon Embassadors being sent to *Attalus King of Pergamus* to fetch her, and by the way the Oracle of *Apollo* being consulted with, he (that is that Devil) answered, that they must have a care to bring this *Idea* into the worthiest mans house in *Rome*; wherefore with great solemnity one that was judged by the Citizens of *Rome* to be the worthiest, was required to meet the *Idoll*, being then 50 miles off the City, together with a company of *Matrons*, who brought *Idea* the mother of their Gods by turns upon their shoulders, all praying as it entred, that it would willingly enter, and be propitious unto them; so the foolish people now, who hold ignorance to be the mother of devotion, are made to believe, that the sound and noise of the Bells shall drive away the fiery darts and power of the enemies and make their armies afraid; and with such words do they pray at the dedication of the Bell; and likewise that the imaginations of fantasies, the striking of Lightnings, the hurt of Thunderings, the calamity of Tempests, and all stormy spirits by the noise and sound thereof may depart and go far away, and all the lying about of the enemy may be far put back, that the beating of the Hail, the storm of winds, the violence of Tempests may be mitigated and allwaged; moreover that the fierce thundering and boystrous storms may be so measured that they do no harm, or hurt his creatures;

in

See
Mayers
hist. pag.
125.

in fine, that the power of the air hearing this bell may tremble and shake for fear, and flee before the Banner of the holy Crosse, and that when the sound of the bell pierceth through the clouds that the hands of the Angels may keep the congregation; yea, they ascribe such power unto the bells, as when the walls of Jerico fell to the ground, and would make the people believe that the presence of God is in them to work wonders, as at the dividing of the sea and turning back of the waters of Jordan, and say when it is demanded, wherefore? it may be answered, the earth was moved at the face of the Lord, at the face of the God of Jacob, which turned the hard rocks into rivers of waters, & the flint stones into watry streams; and thereupon say, that when this present bell, (as the other vessels of the Altar) is touched with the holy chrism; and anointed with holy oil all they that come & draw near to the sound & noise thereof, may be free from all temptations of the enemies; and they ascribe salvation to those bewitching creatures, as if there were power in them to deliver their souls from hell & cause them to passe into heaven: Thus God is dishonoured, his mysteries mocked, his creatures abused, superstition and idolatry upheld, the poor people deceived, O therefore make hast, vote them down, down with them, down with them to the very ground, for God hath a controversie with them, and with all them that cry them up, and let them not be exalted any more to the heaven, but bring them down and destroy them, for if you will not demolish them, God himself will do it some other way, either by sending some other power to do it, or else by proceeding as he hath begun with Lightning
and

and Thunder to destroy them, notwithstanding all their prayers to be delivered from such judgements, the **bells** you see can't deliver themselves, and of all places in their **Churches**, *Gods lightning* lighteth upon the **Belstrees**, so that in divers countries the **bells** are melted, by the vehemency of the flames of **I A H**, and many people killed outright this year, as well as heretofore, and others dangerously hurt, in so much as we see **THE FINGER OF GOD** pointing at them, directing you to destroy them.

Moreover, what abundance of good chear these **bells** with the **Dragons Quests** have devoured by the great **Gossops feasts**, which were made at the baptizing thereof! What **gifts & offerings** to the great impoverishing of the inhabitants, whosoever readeth the **book of Martyrs** may see, where it is complained of. I would add something more, *how the Lords name is dishonored, the Sabbath prophaned, drunkēness upheld*, and many other vices by the continuation of these ungodly trinkets, and how much money is daily raised by the ringing of the **bells** for the *dead*, and mocking of many people, by making them pray for the *dead*, as if they were alive and dying! But what hath been said and done is enough, unless you would have God speak and do more then he hath.

If you doubt whether they belong to the **Commonwealth**, assure your selves that *whatsoever ammunition is sent to the enemy (if it be taken) it's lawfull prize, & belögeth of right to the Cōmonwealth*; so these trinkets being devoted to the service of **Antichrist**, do properly belong to the **Commonwealth**, to do by them as **Asa, Jehosaphat, Hezekiah, and Iosiah**, did by such *idolatrous dedicated things*, without any further dispute or asking leave of the **idolatrous proprietors**,

and as many **high places** were abolished by *King Henry the Eighth*, and many **Crosses** from of the **Steeple**s and **May=poles** and **superstitious signs** by the *Parliament* were taken down. Yea, their **Organs** in their **Churches** were destroyed also by order of *Parliament*, although they were never so tunable & delectable to the ear & heart, & had multiplicities of **notes**, and all the **flats** and **Sharps** therunto belonging, were full of **divisions**, **subdivisions** and **varieties of parts**, far exceeding the bravest *Bag-pipes*, or the lustiest *Lancashire Horn pipes* with all their *drones*, none of all which properties the **bells** in any one of your **Steeple**s have, and the **Organs** required not so many to be occupied in the setting them on work as the **bells**, one was enough to **blow** and an **Organist** to **play**, which was done with lesse toil and sweating then the **ringing of bells**, some **bells** requiring **sixteen men** to **ring** each of them, and at the best are but **novelties** in comparison of the **Organs**, which is of four thousand years standing, the **bells** being brought in by **Pope Sixtinianus** in Anno 603. yet you have broken the **Organs** to **pieces**, and the **rails of the Communion Tables**, and the **Founts**, although some **Barons** and persons claimed a *peculiar interest*, and property therein; even so ought you to destroy these abominable **bells**, and this is a general maxime, *that whatsoever is devoted to superstition and idolatry, is forfeited to the Common-wealth*, and you ought to seiz upon the same, as of the goods of *Traytors*, which is devoted to the enemy, and if you take not the opportunity now *God* hath put a prize in your hand, your neglect will be as a *dead flie in the Oyntment of the Apothecary*: If the **ignorant people** alledg that the noise of

of the bell is heard a far off, and how shall they know when to go to Church, if they be all taken down? Wot you not that in a Market one bell is enough to give warning to the people? and I read not that God ordained any bells for his Church, but what were made of Gold, and they were not for the assembling of the Congregation neither, but when they were assembled; but indeed God ordained silver Trumpets for the assembling of his congregation, and Trumpets of Rams horns, at the throwing down the walls of Ierico, instead whereof the Papists have ordained bells telling us, they are good to clear the air, but if these bawling bells, were metamorphosed into roving Canons, and charged with Gun-powder and flying bullets, against the gates of our enemies, they would clear the air better, and make a better noise then now they do, and be a better recreation; therefore I pray delay not to abolish them: now make an end where God hath begun, lest he prevent you; for out of heaven hath he thundered upon them, and his judgements findeth them out in the valleys as well as on the hills.

If you say that you fear the People, I answer, *They are but an arm of flesh, and you need not fear them at all*, for now you have no enemy in the Land in arms against you; but when you threw down the Crosses and May-poles, and other monuments of idolatry, you had the late King and his forces, and an unconquered people to oppose you, yet you went on and the Lord prosper'd you: now you are strong but then you were weak; now the government is settled in the way of a Commonwealth, but then it was not settled; you had the King, and Lords, and their Armies to oppose you; *And who can harm you if you are followers of that which is good?* When you demolished the Cathedral at Leighfield, by the late Order, who opposed you? When King Asa threw down the high places, and abolished the Idols, it is said, *the Land was quiet before him*. Do but you your duty, and I'll warrant you will do wel enough, the people will not harm you; God can cause his fear and terror to fall upon them, and thunder upon them by his power, so that if they wil contemptuously stand to Plead for Baal, they shall certainly perish, and fall; and if they wil have the Idol Bel, they must have the Dragon too.

Subscribed; SAMUEL CHIDLEY,

On the behalf of all Saints,
And for the cure of all Soules,

To

To the Honourable Committee for regulating the Markets.
The Humble Petition of Samuel Chidley.

Sheweth,

THat although **G O D** hath commanded, That the places wherein the nations worshipped their gods, should be utterly destroyed. Yet there is suffered to stand still that abominable idol **Pauls**, that old bawdy house of the whores of **Babylon**, which was built, dedicated, and consecrated, first by the heathens, and after that by the Antichristians. In which place filthy **Idols** have been set up, abominable idolatry practised, horrible blasphemies uttered, against **THE NAME** of **THE MOST HIGH GOD**, and cruel murders committed against the **Martyrs** of **IESVS CHRIST**, The repairing whereof (though impossible to be finisht without abundance of money) hath robbed the people of millions of treasure, and made them poorer then **Job**, and occasioned much strife, and many houses to be pulled down, which were round about it, Whose highest spire, the lightning from heaven, & fire hath consumed once or twice, The form of that house being a compleat cross, the universal badge of a **Papist**, And the ruines thereof cumbring the ground, & the middle place thereof being ready to fall of it self, the whole **Fabrick** thereof being no ornament, but a disgrace to the City and whole nation, and is of no repute amongst any rational men, but a company of fool, **Papists**, and **Atheists**, such beasts whom **St. Paul** fought with at **Ephesus** after the manner of men; Besides, some persons out of covetousness have lately stolln away very much of the **Leads**, after the **H O U S E** had voted the destruction of the **Cathedrals** for payment of the **PUBLICK FAITH**.

Your Petitioner in conscience to his **G O D** humbly begs, that that great **Idol** may be speedily rooted up to the very bottom of **Sin** **Faiths**, or satisfying of the **PUBLICK FAITH** of this nation, And that there may be a **NEW MARKET** erected there (and called by another name) that the adjacent streets may have a free passage without that usual interruption, by crowds of people, **Cars**, and **Coaches**, on every side, All which will no doubt tend very much to the good of the **Commonwealth** in general, and the **City of London** in particular, and be pleasing to **G O D**, which is best of all.

And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

F I N I S.